



Improving lives through the prevention and treatment of anogenital & HPV-related diseases

## PATIENT RESOURCES

### Atypical Glandular Cells (AGC)

#### What is atypical glandular cells (AGC)?

Atypical glandular cells (AGC) is the name given to abnormal appearing glandular cells on a cervical cytology test (Pap). Glandular cells line the opening in the cervix. Though AGC is a relatively uncommon result, it always requires further evaluation. AGC can be caused by benign conditions, such as cervical polyps, or more serious conditions, such as cancer of the cervix, uterine lining (endometrium), ovary, or fallopian tube. Patients with AGC usually require HPV testing, colposcopy, and biopsy of the inner cervix (endocervical curettage or ECC) during colposcopy. They may also need a biopsy of the endometrium (the lining of the uterus). This is because 10 to 40 percent of patients with atypical glandular cells have high-grade dysplasia (abnormal changes that could lead to cancer) or worse.



*ASCCP is a professional society for an interdisciplinary group of healthcare professionals including physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, midwives and researchers, who are focused on improving lives through the prevention and treatment of anogenital and HPV-related diseases. For more information visit [www.asccp.org](http://www.asccp.org).*